

DISCLOSURE DIVISION

- ☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **ANSWER**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**
☐ **UNTIMELY**

DATE: 6/15/2021

DOCKET #: 2021-501

Ashley Wimberley, Director
Disclosure Division

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Bobby Joe Milner
Address: 212 South Pine, Choudrant, LA 71227-3000
Office/Position: Chief of Police / Choudrant / Lincoln
of Disclosures/Amendments Filed with Agency: 13
Years Covered: 2009-2020
Final Report: No

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: Tier 3 Annual Personal Financial Disclosure covering calendar year 2019
Report ID: PFD21000967
Original Due Date: 7/6/2020
NOD Received: 1/20/2021 - Signed by: Mail Carrier- K. Bradford Covid-19
PFD/Answer Due Date based on NOD: 1/29/2021
PFD/Answer Filed: 2/8/2021

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$500
Days late from receipt of NOD: 10
Total days late from initial due date: 217
Late Fee Order Received: 5/3/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 5/24/2021
Waiver Request Received: 5/19/2021

COMMENTS:

Celeste Butler, Village of Choudrant, Clerk is requesting a waiver on behalf of Bobby Milner. Ms. Butler stated Mr. Milner failed to file his disclosure because of her actions. At each April Town Council Meeting she provides a financial statement of their parish income. However, due to Covid-19 restrictions, they were unable to have the April or May 2020 meetings. She forgot about filing the annual disclosure. Mr. Milner gave Ms. Butler his disclosure to submit to the BOE once he received his NOD. She held the PFD to be mailed along with another members' PFD, that also received an NOD. She did not know she could fax or upload the disclosure statements. Due to inclement weather her office was closed all week and the ice storm stopped both incoming and outgoing mail. She feels that she is accountable for Mr. Milner's late fee assessment.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Disclosure Statements:

- Other Outstanding Statements: No
- Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No
- Reassessed Late Fees: No

Campaign Finance:

- Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: Yes -2009 \$1500 Waived-

Docket 2013-255

Village of Choudrant

PO Box 288 ❖ Choudrant, Louisiana 71227 ❖ 318-768-4111

May 19, 2021

Louisiana Board of Ethics
Post Office Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Dear Board Members,

This letter is in response to a fine assessed against Choudrant Police Chief Bobby Milner. Chief Milner failed to submit his Tier 3 Financial Disclosure Statements for 2019 in a timely manner, partly due to my actions.


Each year at our April town Council meeting, I present statements of income from the Village of Choudrant for the prior year. Chief Milner received his \$405.00 monthly salary - a total of \$4,860 for the year- from the Village. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to meet in April or May of 2020, and I failed to produce the statements. Unfortunately, the Tier 3s were not remembered once we were able to meet again.

When Chief Milner received a letter from The Department of Ethics earlier this year, he contacted me for the financial statement. Unaware that this could have been filed online, I offered to mail the form in for him once completed. Since I was awaiting forms from the Alderman, I held his. Chief Milner has now received a letter that a late fee of \$500 has been assessed.

I am requesting a waiver of Chief Milner's fine as his form would have likely been received within the 7 days of notice had I not gotten involved. I do realize it is ultimately the elected official's responsibility to file, but I feel that I am accountable for Chief Milner's fine.

Your consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Please feel free to contact me should more information be needed. I can be reached by email at celeste@choudrant.org, or my office phone, 318-768-4111. I can also be reached on my personal mobile number - 318-245-9299.

With gratitude and best regards,


Celeste H. Butler, Clerk
Village of Choudrant

The Village of Choudrant is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

info@choudrant.org ❖ fax 318-768-2147 ❖ www.choudrant.org



Village of Choudrant

Celeste Hughes Butler

celeste@choudrant.org

P. O. Box 288 ❖ 3911 Elm Street ❖ Choudrant, LA 71227

318-768-4111 ❖ Fax 318-768-2147 ❖ www.choudrant.org

Date

5/19/2021

Please Deliver to

Ashley Wimbury

2

Pages, including this cover

Request of fee waiver re: Bobby Milner
following this page—

Many Thanks—
Celeste

Village of Choudrant

PO Box 288 ❖ Choudrant, Louisiana 71227 ❖ 318-768-4111

May 19, 2021

Louisiana Board of Ethics
Post Office Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Dear Board Members,

This letter is in response to a fine assessed against Choudrant Police Chief Bobby Milner. Chief Milner failed to submit his Tier 3 Financial Disclosure Statements for 2019 in a timely manner, partly due to my actions.

Each year at our April town Council meeting, I present statements of income from the Village of Choudrant for the prior year. Chief Milner received his \$405.00 monthly salary - a total of \$4,860 for the year- from the Village. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to meet in April or May of 2020, and I failed to produce the statements. Unfortunately, the Tier 3s were not remembered once we were able to meet again.

When Chief Milner received a letter from The Department of Ethics earlier this year, he contacted me for the financial statement. Unaware that this could have been filed online, I offered to mail the form in for him once completed. Since I was awaiting forms from the Alderman, I held his. Chief Milner has now received a letter that a late fee of \$500 has been assessed.

I am requesting a waiver of Chief Milner's fine as his form would have likely been received within the 7 days of notice had I not gotten involved. I do realize it is ultimately the elected official's responsibility to file, but I feel that I am accountable for Chief Milner's fine.

Your consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Please feel free to contact me should more information be needed. I can be reached by email at celeste@choudrant.org, or my office phone, 318-768-4111. I can also be reached on my personal mobile number – 318-245-9299.

With gratitude and best regards,


Celeste H. Butler, Clerk
Village of Choudrant

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
MAY 27 '21 PM 1:55

The Village of Choudrant is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

info@choudrant.org ❖ fax 318-768-2147 ❖ www.choudrant.org



Village of Choudrant

P. O. Box 288

Choudrant, LA 71227

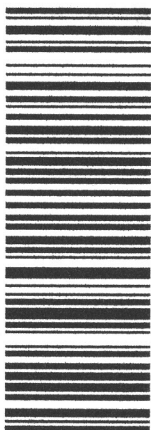
www.choudrant.org

RECEIVED
REQUESTED

Louisiana Board of Ethics
P. O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

CERTIFIED MAIL®

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS, FOLD AT DOTTED LINE



7017 1450 0001 5788 9067



1000



70821

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
CHoudrant, LA
71227
MAY 20 21
AMOUNT

\$7.00

R2305H127600-04